

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 21-40 are pending in this application, and are rejected in the final Office Action of November 25, 2008. Claims 21-40 are amended herein to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter Applicants regard as the invention.

Re: Claims 21-40

Claims 21-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0194599 by Mountain et al. (hereinafter, "Mountain") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,763,522 issued to Kondo et al. (hereinafter, "Kondo"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for at least the following reasons.

Independent claim 21, as amended herein, recites:

"A method for operating a television apparatus, the method comprising steps of:

using a tuner of said television apparatus to tune a program on a channel; and

using a processor of said television apparatus to detect an end time of said program and cause said television apparatus to automatically acquire program information from a broadcaster within a predetermined time period before said end time, said predetermined time period being selected by a user of said television apparatus, and wherein a banner including information for a future program on said channel is automatically displayed in response to said program information." (emphasis added)

As indicated above, amended independent claim 21 recites a method for operating a television apparatus in which the television apparatus detects an end time of a program and automatically acquires program information from a broadcaster within a predetermined time period before the end time. The predetermined time period is advantageously selected by a user of the television apparatus. A banner including information for a future program on the channel is automatically displayed in response to the program information. Independent claims 28 and 35 are amended herein to

recite subject matter similar to independent claim 21. Support for these amendments may be found, for example, in the description of FIG. 7 of Applicant's specification.

Neither Mountain nor Kondo, whether taken individually or in combination, teaches or suggests all of the elements of independent claims 21, 28 and 35. The primary reference, Mountain, discloses a television system that displays program information for upcoming programs on user preferred channels. However, Mountain fails to teach or suggest, *inter alia*, "using a processor of said television apparatus to detect an end time of said program and cause said television apparatus to automatically acquire program information from a broadcaster within a predetermined time period before said end time, said predetermined time period being selected by a user of said television apparatus, and wherein a banner including information for a future program on said channel is automatically displayed in response to said program information" as recited for example by amended independent claim 21 (and similarly recited by amended independent claims 28 and 35).

Secondary reference Kondo discloses a digital television electronic program guide system and method for providing updated program and system information. However, like Mountain, Kondo also fails to teach or suggest, *inter alia*, "using a processor of said television apparatus to detect an end time of said program and cause said television apparatus to automatically acquire program information from a broadcaster within a predetermined time period before said end time, said predetermined time period being selected by a user of said television apparatus, and wherein a banner including information for a future program on said channel is automatically displayed in response to said program information" as recited for example by amended independent claim 21 (and similarly recited by amended independent claims 28 and 35).

Accordingly, for at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that claims 21-40, as amended herein, are patentable over Mountain and Kondo, and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks/arguments and accompanying amendments, the Applicants believe this application stands in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' attorney at (609) 734-6813, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled. Please charge the fee for the RCE to Deposit Account 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,
Bret David Hawkins, et al.

By: /Reitseng Lin/
Reitseng Lin
Reg. No. 42,804
Phone (609) 734-6813

Patent Operations
Thomson Licensing LLC
P.O. Box 5312
Princeton, New Jersey 08540
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